

By Dear Journal:

At 12 M. today Mr. Jones's

the Supreme Court called to order

the delegates elect to the convention

Every member was found to be present

a fact not mentioned in the

know, in the annals of legislative

was promptly begun, but did not

conferred by Mr. Towner and

three other Radical delegates

both required of those who

of assembly called the extra

The protest was read and

filed with the other papers of

Convention. The next

occurred when the county of

was called. Four gentlemen

forward and claimed to represent

the recently much talked of

Messrs. Sinclear and McEwen

certificates in due form

presented papers showing the

of votes cast at various

polling places, thrown out by

commissioners. Mr. Justice

rected the parties to stand

fill the roll of counties had

The impression being created

was the purpose of Judge

for action until the Convention

been organized, a lively

once sprang up. It seemed

that the purpose of the

understand, and that the

nothing more than to

a more convenient

ing of a decision he had

determined to make. When

derstanding was arrived at,

to further objection made

swearing in of members

before with the exception

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Sheriff for the reason

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the reform

Edward Ransom,

The Convention

low: 50 Democrats

ances, will be done. We have plenty of men of ability and experience in the Convention—so much so, indeed, that its superiority over any other legislative body assembled in the State since the Convention of 1855, is apparent at once. All that is lacking is a good working majority. No is able, one to experience wanting a song to the Radical delegates. I trust that the party will call its first meeting in the Convention—a fact that is much to be regretted.

THE CONVENTION.

The second day's proceedings of the Convention consisted merely of the business of the day. The news has been furnished by telegraph, as usual, by Mr. Ransom, on the 10th inst. When the fourth ballot was called, Dr. Ransom

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AN EXCURSION UPON THE ST. JOHN'S RIVER, ON THE SPRING OF 1875.

BY ONE OF THE LADY EXCURSIONISTS.

This afternoon a small party of gentlemen and ladies, of whom the writer was one, left Jacksonville, Florida, upon the steamboat "Forester," for an excursion up the St. John's river, for which we were met by Mr. J. P. T. who had invited some clerical friends, and a few ladies to meet his guest, Mr. W. W. and the writer.

The average majority of the Democratic State ticket in Kentucky is considerably over 40,000, or from 5,000 to 10,000 greater than Leslie's majority in 1871. The legislature stands: Democrats, 90; Republicans, 10—a Democratic gain of 10 members.

The Forest and Stream newspaper, acting in behalf of American sportsmen, has secured 1,200 feet of space at the Centennial Exposition for the display of sporting articles of every description, and rare birds and other animals.

The great joint-stock banks of London have been attempting to persuade the smaller ones to modify their practice of paying interest on deposits within 1 per cent. of the bank of England rate of discount, but thus far have failed.

The Exposition Association of Kansas City, Missouri, has received a letter from ex-President Davis, saying he will spend the entire Fair week there. His address will be delivered the 14th inst.

The latest scandal about the Navy Department is, that the stately Robeson has sold at the Brooklyn Navy Yard machinery which the government purchased for several millions of dollars a few years ago to John Roach, for old iron, at a mere pittance.

Gov. Leslie, of Kentucky, recently appointed as aid-de-camp on his staff a boy thirteen years of age; and later he has added to his staff a son, aged six months, of George T. Duff, the assistant secretary of State. The baby ranks as colonel, and the governor declares that he is more ornamental and fully as useful as any adult whom he could have chosen.

A Vermont correspondent, describing the condition of political affairs in Massachusetts, says that the situation in which the colored Lieutenant-governor is placed just at present, Lieutenant Governor Davis is now on trial at Columbia for receiving bribes while in office. The charge is that during the absence of Governor Ames—who is said to spend about as much of his time in Massachusetts as President Grant while away as Long Island Sound—Davis received several hundred dollars for which he paid to the treasury of the realm. It is noteworthy feature of the trial in this case is the appearance of W. R. Spears, a lawyer of Vicksburg, recently pardoned by Davis for the murder of a fellow-lawyer about eighteen months ago, as one of the attorneys defending Davis. Spears one afternoon dove up in front of Robert J. Miller's office, in a hack, and, seeing him conversing with a party of gentlemen, he stepped up and spoke to him, and as Miller stepped towards the vehicle, Spears, without word or notice of warning, began firing at him with a pistol, and continued till the weapon was empty. The first shot struck Miller in the forehead, and he fell, the other shots being fired after he was down, and all of them taking effect in his body. Miller, of course, died. He was a man in the last stage of consumption, and it was not until he was shot that he was made aware of his condition. He was a fine lawyer, a conservative man, and a genial gentleman, who stood high in the estimation of the courts, and his legal brethren. The Circuit Court, which was in session at the time of his death, adjourned out of respect to his memory, and the bar made the usual speeches in eulogizing him and deploring his death. Spears was indicted for murder, but was nevertheless let out on bail, and while under the question charge continued to practice in the very court in which he stood charged with the highest crime known to the law. His case was put off from term to term, until recently, when Davis granted a pardon before the trial.

Richmond Whig counsels the southern men who are to be members of the next house of congress to be moderate in their temper and manner. The Whig says, "I want to see free and frank in speech; they are men of spirit, and sometimes they are impulsive, and in extemporaneous discourse they are apt to be carried away by the subject, and they may be betrayed or provoked into imprudent expressions. It is not the fault of the men, but of the representatives of the men of the south in the last congress, and we believe there will be none with those faults. The Whig says, "I want to see free and frank in speech; they are men of spirit, and sometimes they are impulsive, and in extemporaneous discourse they are apt to be carried away by the subject, and they may be betrayed or provoked into imprudent expressions. It is not the fault of the men, but of the representatives of the men of the south in the last congress, and we believe there will be none with those faults."

Our telegraphic reports give the organization of the Convention so far as it has progressed; and in spite of the petty parsimony of Governor Ransom, by which the people of Orange county were deprived of their full representation, the Democrats have secured the organization and will have control of the body. We suppose, too, that the organization will be completed, and soon the committees will have been appointed and work will be begun in earnest. We are satisfied that if Republican votes are needed to prevent an immediate adjournment, they can be secured. The Democrats desire Constitutional reform, and others because they earnestly desire their per diem, they earnestly desire the honor of sitting in so distinguished a body. Indeed, with comparatively few there was any real purpose to adjourn the Convention.

And now what? Is there a sufficient majority of good men and true to accomplish any substantial work of reform? This we cannot tell with any certainty at present. We hope there is. We are sure of the material of which a large majority of the Democrats are composed, to feel satisfied that there will be an honest and an earnest effort to do something for the permanent welfare of North Carolina, before they will voluntarily surrender back their trusts into the hands of the suffering people of the State. We shall look with much anxiety to the earliest outcropping of their purposes, with hope rather than with fear.

For the Wilmington Journal.

JOYING BY THE WAY.

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